

mason williams

12/06/2025

Correctional Facilities Inspection Program

Volunteer Report Outline: Correctional Facilities Community Inspection Program

Purpose

To provide support for volunteers participating in the 2024 Correctional Facilities Community Inspection Program alongside Multnomah County Board of County Commissioners.

This outline is organized into topic areas with prompting questions in order to support the completion of a report, as required by the Multnomah County Charter (3.80), which states "Volunteers will issue publicly available reports with findings and recommendations." The final report is not required to follow this outline.

Background and Process

What is the legislative background for the additional inspection? Making sure that not only the correctional officers follows the proper procedures and protocols but making sure that the facility is properly staffed and trained. This inspection is to not only address the concern of the facilities but to make sure it is not avoided.

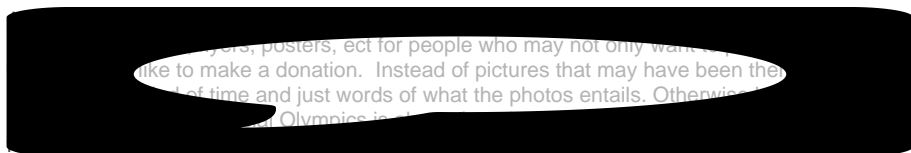
What was your experience with the process of conducting the additional inspection? The main interactions were touring the facilities, asking staff questions about certain care, safety precautions. There were a couple of concerns that pertained to the staff shortage and still in need of correctional officers. But also the infrastructure of how the dorms are being repaired. Maintaining a facility with fewer correctional officers.

Are there any recommendations you would make? As a start I would upgrade any infrastructure that hasn't been taken care of. For example plumbing seemed to be an issue as there has been water leakage in the ceilings but also in some potential water fountains with a towel of sorts underneath. Making sure the facility is up to code with cleaning. AS for the dorm/cells, there was a bit of space in the dormitory however the highest recommendation is insulation in the facility. Making sure there is a space for not only air but an insulator for heat and/or to keep the facility cool in the summer. As well as bed space, while not all facilities will have a huge space, the concern of the beds is something to think about. While the majority of them were small it was the matter of one bed being on top of the other. While being informed it would be removed due to people falling off or just no need for it at all

Second I would like to implement the staff shortages, while that seems to be an ongoing concern and still is I would say reaching out to organisations/programs for individuals who may be interested in helping people with mental health but also the facility and care of incarcerated individuals. As well as more than one or two correctional officers present while surveilling the individuals who are in custody.

Third Safety is the main projected concern, although were not being booked the concern comes from being a volunteer and having something being sneaked in. For example, as we're going through a scanner I would've expected an extensive search aside from the term "Squat and Cough". In other words with me having long hair I could've brought in a weapon or even on the bottom of my shoe. I would just like to implement a further search for the safety of everyone there.

Lastly, While there are a variety of individuals in custody I would recommend more hygiene products. While viewing a cell is when I noticed 1 bar of body or hand soap that I didn't touch. The concern with this is making sure everyone is receiving the same equal amount of hygiene products (Unless it is commissary). As well as more equipment for individuals who like to work out. There were only 1-2 workout machines with more than 20 people in a dorm. While there were kiosks for commissary or phone calls there could be some that may need to be updated or newer versions in case they all no longer function.



Equity and Inclusion

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) outlined its goals around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in their most recent [FY 2025 Budget Transmittal Letter](#). Using this as context:

What observations did you make that MCSO is fulfilling its Mission, Vision and Values? Although the facility has been undergoing challenges there is effort in making sure there are enough correctional officers I would, but there is the mission of making sure everyone gets the care that is needed. Whether it is medical, dental, behavioral etc. However, some changes can still be made.

What observations did you make that MCSO is fulfilling its commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion? Although no accommodations are persisted, there is a growing number of changes in making sure that needs are met for dietary restrictions/ food allergies. There are some services that are offered but not too many were present. In some ways there's a small amount of education on mental health/illness with some posters of what "Depression" is and how to take care of that.

Are there any recommendations you would make? I would start by saying having some mental health first aid courses for not only correctional officers for people who are in custody. This would be specifically for the people who are in custody in case someone were to have a

crisis and wouldn't know what to do. As well as extensive training for correctional officers instead of 40 hours. While that seems sufficient it can still cause a barrier for those in need as well as narcan training AND de-escalation training.

My other implementation is making sure everyone is able to be heard and receive care. While touring the facility I noticed what appeared to be paper covering the cells. Whether or not that is an indication of danger it raises a concern of how someone in custody may be treated regardless of noise disruption or not. As well as DEI Training to prevent any Implicit/Explicit bias against people of color or BIPOC. To reduce the number of unnecessary force, injuries, and discrimination, or even having correctional officers take an exam with a passion score of 85% to determine who should work at these facilities but also will do exceptional with helping people who have mental health or behavioral health challenges. Whoever does not pass needs to retake the exam with that existing score after the second attempt the officer needs to be placed back into the original position.

rUpdated 10.15.2024 Page 1

Inspection Details

Overview			
Were you given an overview of the type of housing units for Inverness Jail facility?	✓	N	NA
Were you given an overview of the type of housing units for MCDC?	✓	N	NA
Any observations regarding types of housing units: I would say if there is a way to expand the sanctuary that would be an addressment.			

Facility Maintenance (structure integrity, cleanliness, etc.)
How would you describe the conditions inside the facility? There needs to be some work done as it pertains to previous ceiling leakage, courtyard cleanliness, etc.
How would you describe the conditions outside the facility? Outside its structurable just the matter of making sure the building is in city code shape.
How would you describe the cleanliness inside the facility? It was an average scale of cleanliness but despite an odor/stench that may not have been attended or lack of repair services.
How would you describe the cleanliness outside the facility? It is pretty maintained outside from the environment setting.
Other observations regarding maintenance of the facility: The structure inside pertaining to ceilings, plumbing, and environment could be addressed.
Recommendations regarding maintenance of the facility: Making sure that it is up to code, aside from cleanliness making sure the facility equipment works and not out of commission but also making sure infrastructure is attended to and not avoided.

Staffing			
How would you describe staffing at the facility? They care about people who are in custody though there needs to be a little bit more training in some de-escalation methods.			
Other observations regarding staffing: There's a lower number of staff who are present among the people who are in custody but most of all trying to be aware of surroundings.			
Recommendations regarding staffing: I would implement more than 2 correctional officers or specifically 2. With 2 being present and someone else being there to fill in when there aren't any more correctional officers present.			

Food			
Did you tour the kitchen area of the facility?	✓	N	NA
Were you provided an overview of food service?	✓	N	NA
Did you observe how dietary restrictions are accommodated?	✓	N	NA
Other observations regarding food: Not much sodium was used for dietary needs!			
Recommendations regarding food: None!			

Updated 10.15.2024 Page 2

Education and Programming			
Were you given a tour of where programs are offered in the facility?	✓	N	NA
Were you provided an overview of what programs are offered?	✓	N	NA
Were you given an overview about how adults in custody request access to different programs?	Y	✓	NA
Did you observe programs offered on an individual or group basis?	Y	N	✓
Other observations regarding education and programming: There are some programs to help people get on their feet after being let out of custody. But also programs for individuals who want to pursue an education and/or be able to seek educational services.			
Recommendations regarding education and programming: None other than offering excessive programs after being let out of custody but also further training that can be beneficial and useful while being in custody.			

Corrections Health

Were you given a tour of the medical clinic?	✓	N	NA
Did you observe how adults in custody can be offered medical services (if they aren't requesting the services, how are they made aware)?	Y	N	✓
Were you given an overview about how adults in custody request access to medical services?	✓	N	NA
Other observations regarding Corrections Health services:No			
Recommendations regarding Corrections Health services: I would say change the "Non emergency form" to an emergency form unless there was a typo mistake.			